TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 24, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 19 totaled 342,562, down 2.8 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 0.6 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 2.6 percent in the West and 3.0 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, grain loadings were down 2,368 cars (8.5 percent). Loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were down 1,408 cars (7.7 percent) and waste and scrap materials were down 1,105 cars (11.7 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 33 weeks of 1989 totaled 10,938,480, down 0.9 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 116,081 trailers and/or containers for the week ended August 19, up 0.9 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 33 weeks of 1989 was 3,703,546 trailers and/or containers, 3.3 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended August 19 totaled 19.7 billion, 2.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 33 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 627.1 billion ton-miles, down 0.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,547	27,915	-8.5 %	26,475	-3.5 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	900	897	.3	915	-1.6
Metallic Ores	20,827	21,515	-3.2	21,069	-1.1
Coal	132,554	133,183	-.5	130,234	1.8
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,962	18,370	-7.7	17,435	-2.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	11,145	11,014	1.2	11,177	-.3
Grain Mill Products	9,692	9,598	1.0	9,533	1.7
Food & Kindred Products	8,918	9,050	-1.5	9,019	-1.1
Primary Forest Products	9,368	9,680	-3.2	9,488	-1.3
Lumber & Wood Products	6,607	6,774	-2.5	6,271	5.4
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,961	10,684	-6.8	10,184	-2.2
Chemicals	27,150	27,086	.2	26,927	.8
Petroleum Products	4,937	5,564	-11.3	5,523	-10.6
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,074	10,789	2.6	11,172	-.9
Coke	5,152	5,990	-14.0	5,486	-6.1
Metals & Products	8,968	9,835	-8.8	8,947	.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	17,571	17,527	.3	16,241	8.2
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,308	9,413	-11.7	8,086	2.7
All Other Carloads	6,921	7,441	-7.0	6,465	7.1
Total	**342,562**	**352,325**	**-2.8 %**	**340,647**	**.6 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 33 WEEKS ENDING AUGUST 19, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**342,562**	**352,325**	**-2.8 %**	**10,938,480**	**11,041,288**	**-.9 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	64,570	67,157	-3.9	2,145,619	2,167,513	-1.0
Containers	51,511	47,923	7.5	1,557,927	1,417,003	9.9
Total	**116,081**	**115,080**	**.9**	**3,703,546**	**3,584,516**	**3.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.7**	**20.1**	**-2.0 %**	**627.1**	**629.5**	**-.4 %**

Note: CSX intermodal figures have undergone substantial revisions, resulting in a major change in the cumulative totals for both 1989 and 1988.

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